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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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# Report of Activities

JUNE 1, 1959 - MAY 31, 1960

GENERAL BULLETIN 685  
VOL. 43 NO. 3

SEPTEMBER 1960  
HARRISBURG

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA - DAVID L. LAWRENCE, GOVERNOR  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - W.L. HENNING, SECRETARY

1960

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DR. PAUL V. CLARKSON, *Chief, Brucellosis Division*  
DR. JESSE B. MOYER, *Chief, Division of Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication*  
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#### STATE FARM PRODUCTS SHOW COMMISSION

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CHARLES A. KOESTER, *District Manager, Pittsburgh*  
ALLEN F. SCHMOLL, *District Manager, Tunkhannock*  
HARRY A. EVERETT, *District Manager, Lansdale*  
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Bulletin — Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture — Published in March, June, September and December by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture. Second class postage paid at Harrisburg, Pa.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
HARRISBURG

THE SECRETARY

September 1, 1960

The Honorable David L. Lawrence  
Governor of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Governor Lawrence:

Service to Pennsylvania's largest industry - Agriculture - was increased during this fiscal year through several administrative innovations in the Department of Agriculture.

Through our district offices and improved record-keeping systems, we have speeded service to farmers needing health charts for animals to be sold or shown at fairs and expositions. We continue to press diligently to eradicate brucellosis and tuberculosis in our livestock herds. Both diseases are transmissible to humans and are public health menaces as well as sources of economic loss to farmers.

Plant pest control work continues to be successful in keeping harmful insects and plant diseases out of Pennsylvania. Our Bureau of Plant Industry has completed arrangements with the United States Department of Agriculture for procedures to check incoming cargoes in the Port of Erie, our newest seaport.

Agricultural marketing work moves forward rapidly. We have started an experimental livestock market news service for community sales and have expanded market news service for vegetable crops. Product promotion work is carried on continuously.

New laws and regulations put into force in the past fiscal year assure Pennsylvanians of the purest possible supply of milk handled under the most sanitary conditions.

Guidance, interest and encouragement from your office has enhanced the work of the Department. We also acknowledge constructive suggestions and advice from farmers and farm organizations throughout the Commonwealth.

Respectfully,

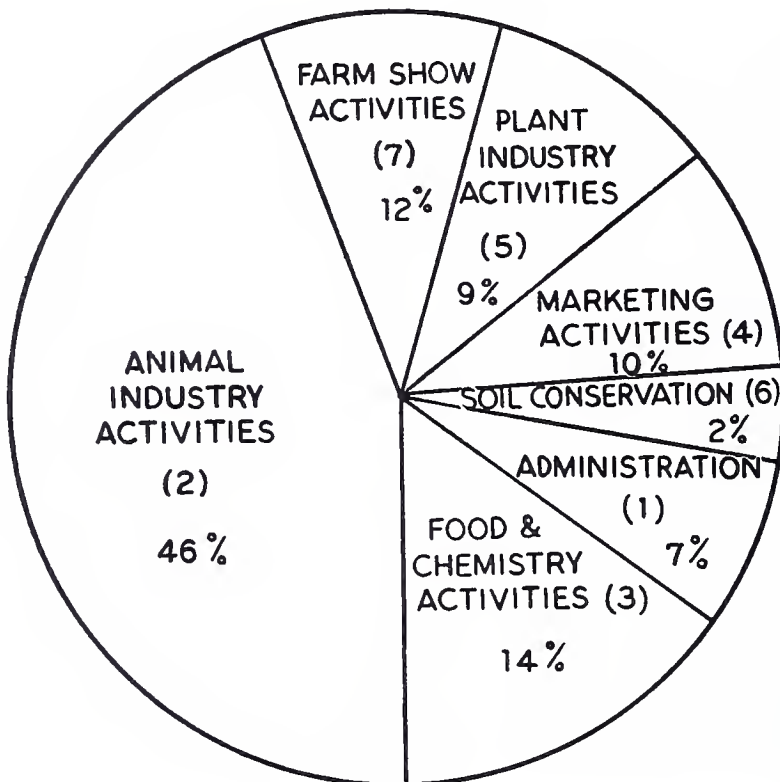
*W. L. Henning*

W. L. Henning  
Secretary of Agriculture

# How The Department's Expenditure Dollar Is Divided

(on a cash basis)

June 1, 1959 — May 31, 1960



*Figures in parentheses indicate the grouping of accounts into activities*

1. Administration (Total) .....	\$ 239,935.36
2. Bureau of Animal Industry .....	\$1,357,482.16
Animal Indemnities .....	94,711.54
Veterinary Fees .....	25,682.00
Regional Diagnostic Laboratory .....	11,904.56
Research in Diseases of Livestock and Poultry .....	26,560.00*
Calfhood Vaccination .....	121,454.70
Total .....	\$1,637,794.96

3. Bureau of Foods and Chemistry .....	\$ 395,088.95	
Milk Sanitation .....	2,124.00*	
Feed and Fertilizer .....	99,814.03	
Total .....		\$ 497,026.98
4. Bureau of Markets .....	\$ 318,198.14	
Egg Inspection and Enforcement .....	1,211.85*	
Encouraging Agricultural Exhibits .....	55,000.00	
Total .....		\$ 374,409.99
5. Bureau of Plant Industry .....	\$ 318,573.22	
Control of Stem Rust .....	14,348.63	
Survey of Oak Wilt Disease .....	2,300.64*	
Total .....		\$ 335,222.49
6. Soil Conservation Commission .....	\$ 36,150.34	
Geological Survey .....	8,704.41	
Soil Survey .....	19,516.58	
Total .....		\$ 64,371.33
7. Farm Show Account .....	\$ 113,223.63	
State Farm Show Fund .....	269,976.35	
Livestock Show .....	49,000.00	
Junior Dairy Shows .....	14,999.13	
Total .....		\$ 447,099.11
Total for Department .....		\$3,595,860.22

\*This item has been discontinued as an individual account; the amount necessary to carry on the program has been included in the general appropriation to the agency. Amounts listed for these items represent funds appropriated in the previous fiscal year but spent in this fiscal year.

## Employees

	Number	Percentage of Total
Administration .....	43	8
Animal Industry .....	245	48
Foods and Chemistry .....	81	16
Markets .....	54	10
Plant Industry .....	48	10
Farm Show .....	36	7
Soil Conservation .....	4	1
Total .....	511	

# Results - -

Detected and eradicated an outbreak of Anaplasmosis (Texas fever) in a herd of beef cattle.

Vaccinated 157,124 calves against brucellosis.

Greater use than ever before was made of the five regional poultry diagnostic laboratories.

Dog license sales increased by 60,000.

Farm Show Building use continues to be expanded.

Pittsburgh's wholesale fishery products and flower market facilities study started.

Experimental livestock market news service begun.

Vegetable price reporting broadened.

Certified seal placed on 24,002,280 dozen eggs.

Received 13 new applications for federal aid under Public Law 566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act.

Speeded license renewals by machine processing.

Performed chemical analyses of 4,392 food samples and 5,200 feed and fertilizer samples.

Modernized requirements for cleaning and sanitizing dairy equipment.

Checked 53,096 bee colonies and found 796 cases of American Foul Brood.



# Administration

The Executive and Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture was busily engaged in a wide variety of projects to improve the Department's services during fiscal year June 1, 1959 to May 31, 1960.

The 1959 Legislature, in session for part of the year, passed the appropriation bills for the Department with minor cuts in most categories. However, it removed practically all funds providing for the promotion of Pennsylvania agricultural products and thus curtailed the program.

A number of measures were presented to the Legislature and probably the greatest accomplishment was the passage of a bill providing for extensive modernization of the Milk Sanitation Law.

A proposed law providing for marketing orders and agreements passed the House but not the Senate. This was a serious blow in that it failed to allow Pennsylvania farmers the use of a self-help marketing tool.

A new revised food law was presented but was not adopted by either the House or Senate.

Three District Offices, of the seven proposed to eventually embrace the Commonwealth, are now in operation. Two new offices, Lansdale and Pittsburgh, and the previously established Tunkhannock office, service 29 counties. Harry A. Everett, former vocational agricultural supervisor for Columbia and Montour Counties, was appointed manager of the Lansdale District Office covering Schuylkill, Berks, Lehigh, Northumberland, Chester, Montgomery, Bucks, Philadelphia and Delaware Counties. Former Potter County agricultural agent Charles A. Koester was named to the managerial position in the Pittsburgh District embracing Lawrence, Beaver, Butler, Armstrong, Indiana, Westmoreland, Allegheny, Washington, Greene and Fayette Counties. The Tunkhannock Office, supervised by Allen F. Schmoll, covers Bradford, Susquehanna, Wayne, Sullivan, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike and Carbon Counties.

The Administrative Office initiated several new projects, the majority of which can be placed in two categories: Placing several clerical functions on an automatic business machine basis, and modernization of forms. The automatic business machine unit has been concentrating on animal herd records and issuing of licenses. To systematize and aid identification of livestock health records, each of the 90,000 cattle herds in Pennsylvania will be identified by an eight-digit code.

All forms used in testing cattle and administering the cattle health programs have been modernized.

The Department issues about 40,000 licenses per year and a point has been reached where approximately 80 per cent are issued as machine processed punched cards. Some of the major licenses so issued are oleomargarine, meat handlers, ice cream plants, slaughtering houses and plant nurseries.

Publications issued by the Department have been modernized by the Public Information Division creating an increased demand for the materials.





**District managers Charles Koester, Harry Everett, and Alan Schmoll assemble for frequent conferences. They direct field operations from regional offices in Pittsburgh, Lansdale and Tunkhannock.**

Primary emphasis in the public information program has been in using all the mass media of communication to tell the people of Pennsylvania about the services offered by their Department of Agriculture. Some radio and television production facilities were added during the year and many of the Department's specialists have appeared on live television programs throughout the Commonwealth. Pennsylvania newspapers and magazines receive regular service covering all phases of the Department's activities.

A majority of the newspapers in Pennsylvania received special coverage for the 1960 Pennsylvania Farm Show through the Farm Show News Room. Special coverage was also supplied newspapers and magazines during the Pennsylvania Livestock Exposition.

The fiscal year was sound as far as expenditures of the Department were concerned. The Department was able to operate well within its budget and expenditures showed little difference from those for previous years.

Two factors tended to keep the finances and program at a lower level than desired. One was the difficulty in employing certain classes of technicians such as veterinarians, entomologists and chemists; the second was that the final appropriation for the Department was not passed until several months after the beginning of the fiscal year. Due to the uncertainty of these appropriations, the programs had to be run on a rather curtailed basis until the appropriations act was passed.

While much was accomplished in the fiscal year, other tasks arose demanding attention. The outlook for next year appears to be equally demanding.



## **State Harness Racing Commission**

The 1959 Session of the Legislature passed a law creating a State Harness Racing Commission as an administrative body within the Department of Agriculture. The Commission will operate rather independently from other activities of the Department.

At the close of the fiscal year, May 31, 1960, the Commission was still in the process of organization. Successful primaries were held in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Northumberland and Luzerne Counties allowing the Commission to issue licenses for harness racing plants with pari-mutuel betting in those counties.

The Legislature appropriated \$35,000 to the Department to be turned over to the Commission for operating expenses until it is self-sustaining. Up to May 31, 1960, the Commission spent, on a cash basis, \$5,108.41.

## **Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service**

During the fiscal year, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service developed 800 statistical reports from survey data collected from farmers, businessmen, auction markets, mills and elevators, and processors throughout the Commonwealth. From these statistical reports, 300 separate releases, or results, of the studies were published and issued, involving over 789,000 copies.

Each month the Crop Reporting Service releases Pennsylvania and U. S. data on prospective acreage, yields, and production of the principal crops; dairy reports relating to milk cow numbers and milk production; vegetable production for both fresh market and processing; hatchery production and prices received and paid by farmers. Weekly releases are issued in season on crop and weather conditions. Weekly broiler chick and poult releases are also issued.

A mailing list of approximately 25,000 voluntary reporters is maintained from whom basic information is obtained from which the farm facts are developed.

In addition to the regular established function of the collecting statistical data and preparation of State and county estimates of crops and livestock production, two special research projects are in progress.

One study comprised a survey of the Christmas tree industry, started in 1957, at which time an inventory of tree numbers by ages and varieties was taken. A special bulletin was published on the findings. The continuing project is financed as an A.M.A. project whereby the Department made available funds for matching purposes with Federal funds. Approximately \$10,000 per year has been allocated for this project.

Since February 1958 a special milk production and marketing survey has been underway in Pennsylvania counties. Funds for financing of this project were also made available by the Department under the matching funds program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Bureau of Markets furnished part-time technical assistance.

Approximately \$10,000 in matching funds were available for 1958; \$14,000 in fiscal 1959; \$13,000 for fiscal 1960; and \$16,000 for fiscal 1961.

## *Bureau of*

# Animal Industry

The Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry is charged by law with the prevention, control, and eradication of transmissible diseases of domestic animals and poultry. The Bureau works in close cooperation with the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, practicing veterinarians, livestock and poultry associations, individual owners and the Agricultural Extension Service of The Pennsylvania State University.

## **Bovine Tuberculosis**

The Tuberculosis Division is responsible for the control of tuberculosis in cattle with eventual eradication as the goal. Some work with other species of animals and poultry is a necessary, but very minor adjunct, of the program. In addition, an attempt is made to control and eradicate Johne's Disease (paratuberculosis) in those herds in which the disease is reported.

Anaplasmosis (Texas fever) was discovered in one herd of beef cattle in the past year. There were 29 reactor animals for which an indemnity of \$1,135 was paid. Anaplasmosis is a disease of the blood carried by ticks, horseflies, and other blood sucking insects.

In March the Bureau began use of a new combined tuberculosis and brucellosis test report designed for testing both individual and area plans. The new form prevents duplication of effort.

There were 518,686 cattle tested for tuberculosis during the fiscal year disclosing 563 reactor animals, 256 of which revealed "No Gross Lesions" of tuberculosis upon post mortem examination.

The graph shows the percentage of reactors among total cattle tested during each of the last ten years. In 1959-60, eleven out of every ten thousand tested were reactors.

## **Brucellosis**

The Brucellosis Division carries on a program for the eventual eradication of brucellosis. Calfhood vaccination and blood testing, combined with milk ring testing as a continuing check, are the main features of this program. During the year 641,968 cattle from 46,481 herds were tested and 1,642 were found to be reactors. The incidence of brucellosis was reduced to 25 per thousand tested. There are now 19,271 certified brucellosis free herds comprising 472,099 cattle. During the year 157,124 calves were vaccinated making a total of 1,643,528 since the program went into effect.

The graph demonstrates the effectiveness of the program in elimination of brucellosis. In eight years the incidence of brucellosis has been reduced from 203 per thousand tested to 25.





Swine as well as cattle can become infected with brucellosis. Here a state veterinarian demonstrates the proper method of taking a blood sample from an adult sow. Blood samples are tested for the presence of brucellosis in the BAI laboratory.

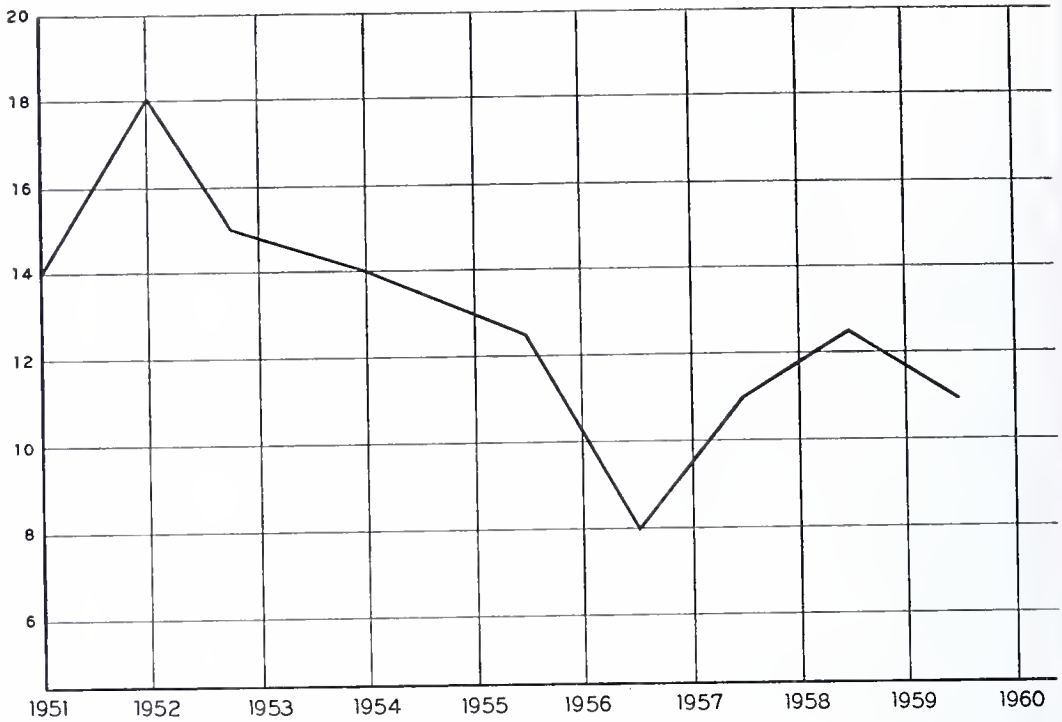
### **Miscellaneous Diseases**

The Miscellaneous Diseases Division directs investigations and examinations and establishes quarantines that are necessary in the control and eradication of animal and poultry disease other than tuberculosis, brucellosis and paratuberculosis. Among the diseases controlled by the division are: blackleg, cattle mange, equine encephalomyelitis, equine infectious anemia, hog cholera, rabies, scabies (sheep), and swine erysipelas.



## TUBERCULOSIS

NUMBER OF TUBERCULIN REACTORS PER 10,000 TESTED



### Laboratory Division

The Laboratory Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, since its establishment in 1896, has offered and given free laboratory service to practicing veterinarians and livestock owners in the diagnosis of transmissible diseases in all types of domesticated animals and poultry. The serological testing of blood sera for the detection of brucellosis in cattle and pullorum in poultry comprises the major portion of all specimens examined at the laboratory. Greater use was made of the five regional poultry diagnostic laboratories in the past year than ever before.

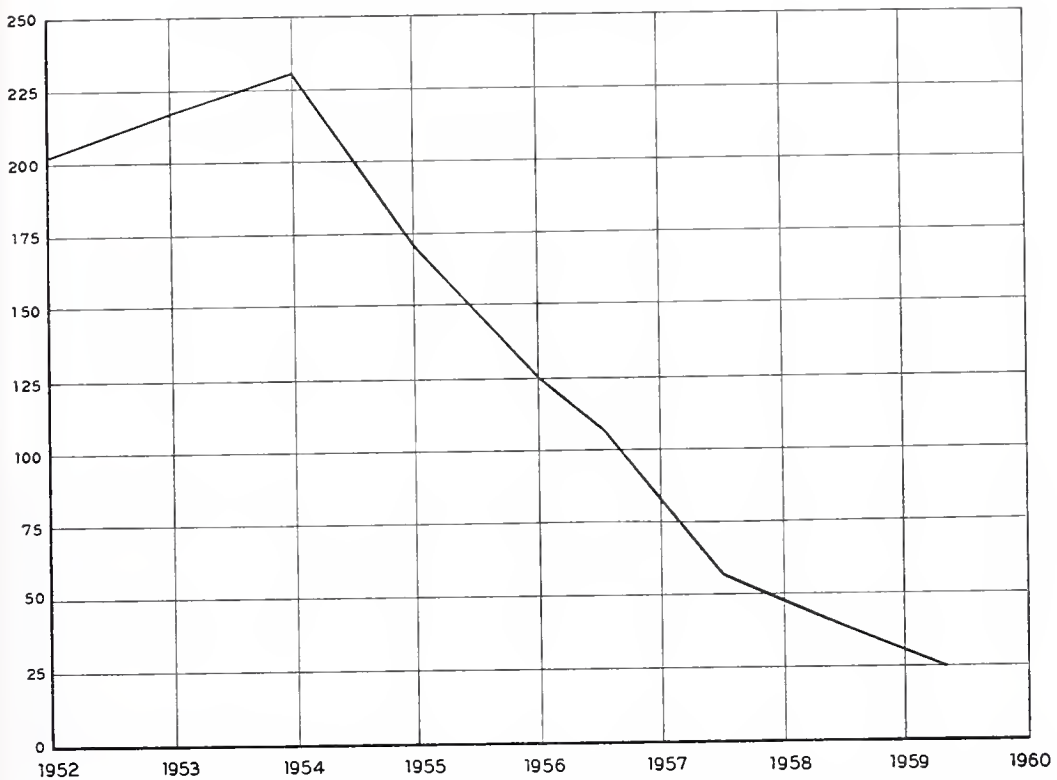
### Meat Hygiene Division

This division has charge of legal investigations; supervising community livestock sales; issuing licenses to livestock dealers, horse slaughtering establishments, rendering plants, and slaughtering and meat processing establishments in the State.

Meat inspection services of this division are primarily concerned with, but not confined to, meat markets and slaughtering houses in rural districts and municipalities unable to maintain inspection services. The inspection of abattoirs having federal or municipal meat inspection is not duplicated.

Year	Abattoirs Examined	Animals Slaughtered Under Inspection		Meat Examined		Establishments Closed
		Passed	Condemned	Passed	Condemned	
1956-57	8,606	884,591	1,257	109,710,011 lb.	62,335 lb.	3
1957-58	8,546	744,308	1,446	142,177,238 lb.	40,949 lb.	9
1958-59	8,918	889,693	1,619	127,229,949 lb.	52,646 lb.	10
1959-60	9,598	1,230,242	1,729	111,244,901 lb.	35,979 lb.	3

BRUCELLOSIS  
NUMBER OF BRUCELLOSIS REACTORS PER 10,000 TESTED



No poultry slaughtering plants have operated under State inspection since January 1, 1959. On this date all State inspected plants changed to Federal inspection to meet with interstate shipment requirements.

Regulations governing community livestock sales have been changed to comply with newly revised regulations and requirements relative to tuberculosis and brucellosis. There were 55 licensed community livestock sales operating in Pennsylvania during the year. Each livestock sale barn employs a veterinarian who is under the supervision of the Meat Hygiene Division. The importance of close inspection of this livestock is emphasized by the fact that of 457 animals quarantined, 107 were condemned on post-mortem examination and 153 died on the premises.

## Dog Law

The Dog Law Division insures licensing of dogs, adjudicates claims for damages caused by dogs, investigates larceny and poisoning of dogs, establishes rabies quarantines, and is responsible for issuing mink propagating permits.

There were 31,434 stray dogs eliminated by police and dog law enforcement officers in Pennsylvania during the past fiscal year.

Both individual license sales and kennel license sales were up with 890,279 individual pets being licensed, almost 60,000 more than in the year before. About 500 more kennels were licensed. There were 3,057 prosecutions arising from violations of the Pennsylvania Dog Law. The number of damage claims was down slightly, together with the amount of such claims.

Sale of individual and kennel licenses returned the Commonwealth \$1,218,059.75, more than \$100,000 greater than in the preceding fiscal year.

## *Bureau of*

# Foods & Chemistry

The Bureau of Foods and Chemistry is responsible for the enforcement of the General Food Law and related acts for specific classifications of foods such as bakery products, milk, sausage and ice cream. The major areas of interest are concerned with registration, adulteration and misbranding.

The Bureau also has been designated to administer the laws pertaining to animal feed, fertilizers, liming materials and pesticides.

A field staff of 32 men make inspections to see that these various laws are enforced. Each agent is responsible for an area containing approximately 400,000 people. Certain agents are responsible solely for the enforcement of laws relating to animal feed, fertilizer and liming materials.

Some measure of the Bureau's activity can be obtained from the following tables:

<i>Fiscal Period Ending</i>	<i>Inspections Made</i>	<i>Food Samples Analyzed</i>	<i>Food Violations</i>	<i>Feed &amp; Fertilizer Analyzed</i>	<i>Feed &amp; Fertilizer Violations</i>
1957 .....	23,000	6,400	502	2,700	51
1958 .....	22,900	6,300	458	4,400	41
1959 .....	25,800	5,800	546	4,000	31
1960 .....	24,510	4,392	476	5,200	33

As authorized by the Pennsylvania General Food Law, the Bureau recently issued regulations relating to the Miller and Delaney Amendments to the Federal Food and Drug Law. Essentially, the new regulations say that those chemical additives which have been proved safe by virtue of information submitted to the federal government will be considered safe insofar as food offered for sale in Pennsylvania is concerned. A regulation has also been published prohibiting the presence of antibiotics in milk.

## **Division of Milk Sanitation**

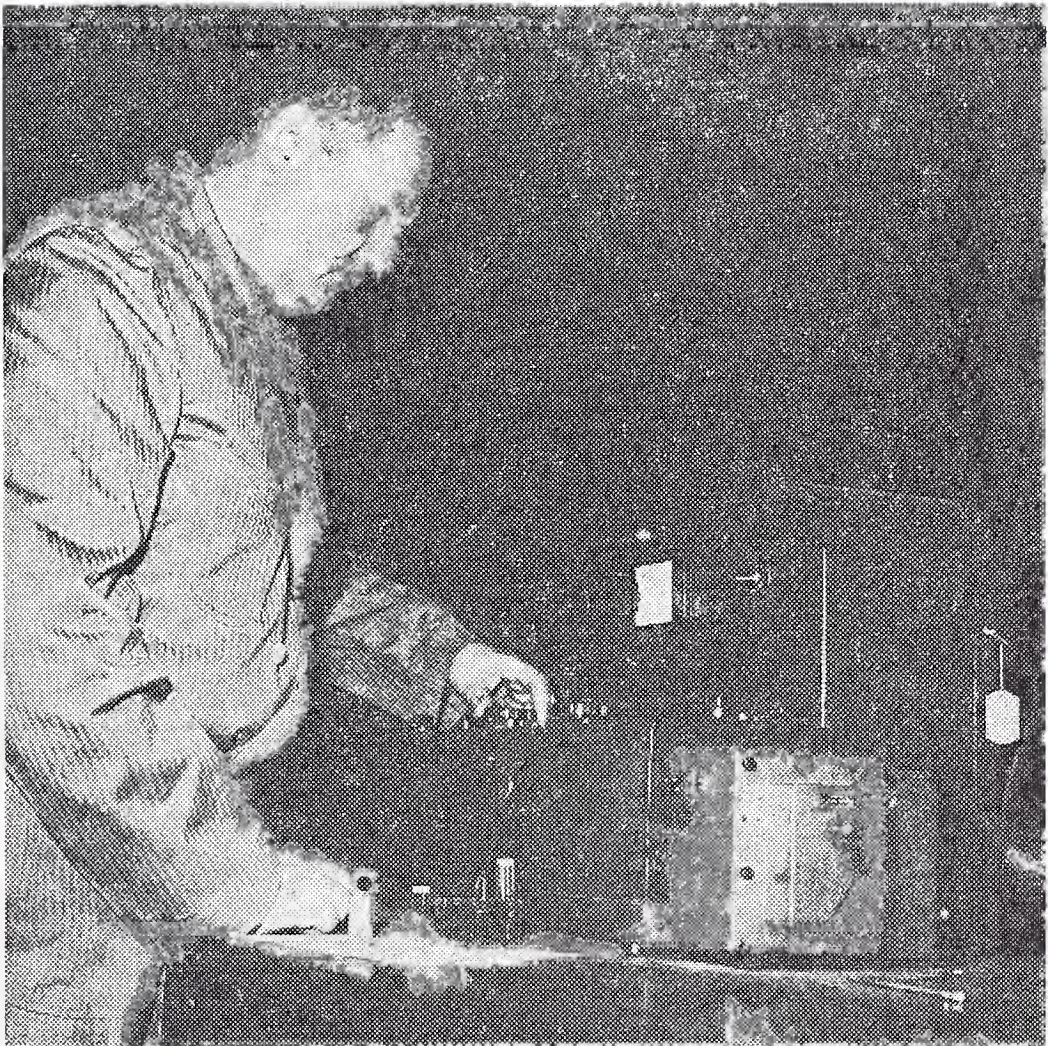
The Division of Milk Sanitation ensures that sanitary procedures are used in the handling and sale of milk and milk products within the State of Pennsylvania. The Division issues permits to plants desiring to sell milk in the State if they meet the division's sanitary requirements. During the fiscal year, the division made 2,700 inspections of milk plants which had applied for permits to sell in Pennsylvania. The division also inspected 4,583 of the farms producing milk for these plants. It was necessary to hold 22 official hearings, and, due to the evidence that was presented, to revoke or cancel 16 permits or applications.



# **Inspections**

	<i>Milk Plants in Penna.</i>	<i>Milk Plants in Other States</i>	<i>Farms Inspected</i>	<i>Plant Permits Issued</i>	<i>Official Hearings</i>	<i>Permits Revoked</i>
1956-57 .....	2,606	287	5,132	3,373	25	15
1957-58 .....	2,363	274	4,469	3,078	38	24
1958-59 .....	1,800	243	2,458	2,656	29	17
1959-60 .....	2,700	250	4,583	3,753	22	16

During the course of the inspections, it was necessary to prosecute 19 dairy plants for continued neglect to meet sanitation requirements. During the year, 248 laboratories were inspected to determine if they were making



Tests for the presence of pesticides in foods, feeds and forage are made on this spectrophotometer in the Foods and Chemistry laboratory. Minute quantities of foreign materials can be detected by this precision machine.

DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LEGAL COUNSEL

SECRETARY

STATE FARM  
PRODUCTS SHOW  
COMMISSION

PROGRAM  
DEPUTY  
SECRETARY

ANIMAL  
INDUSTRY

PLANT  
INDUSTRY

AGRICULTURAL  
MARKETING

FOOD & AGRICULTURAL  
CHEMISTRY

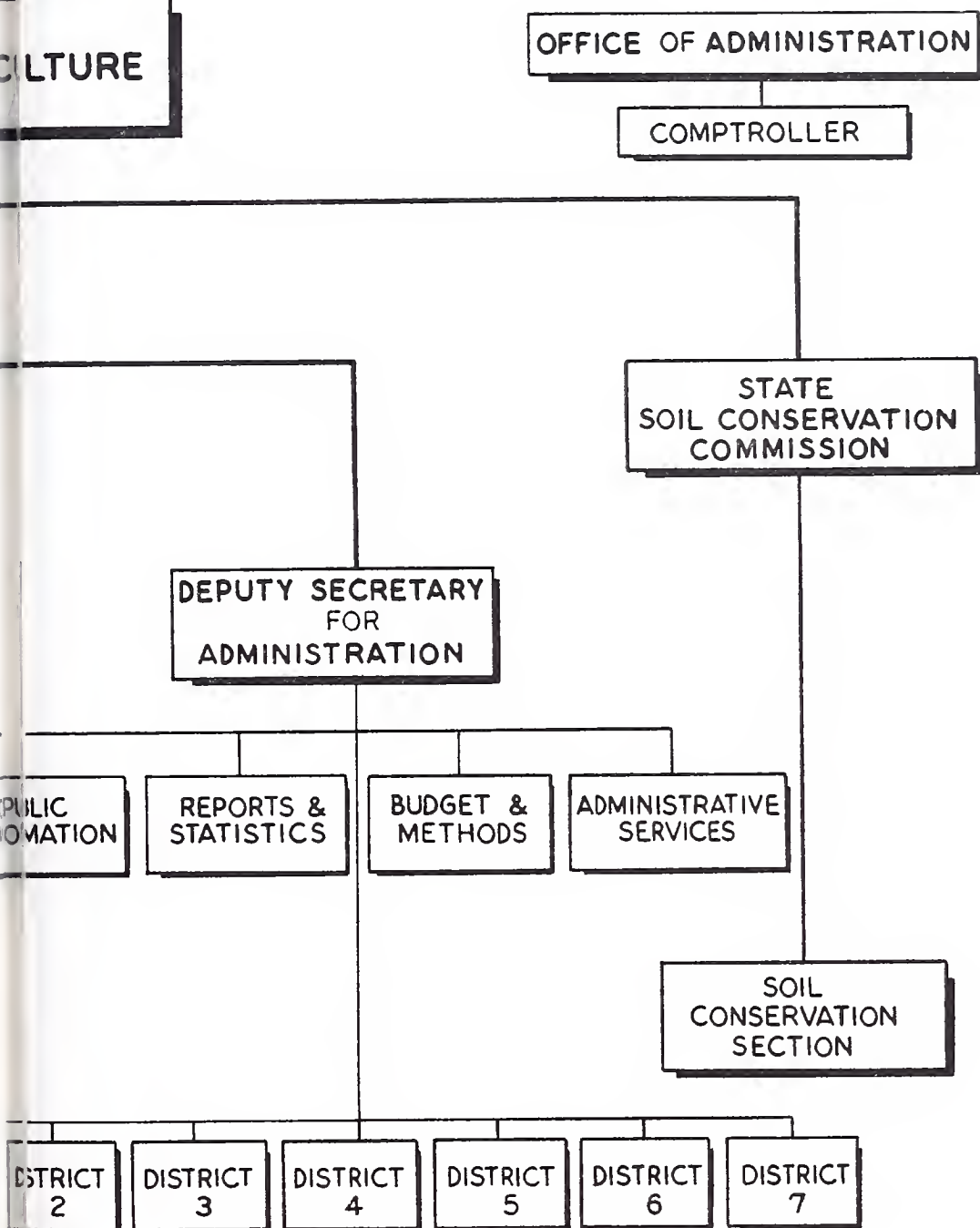
FARM  
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SECTION



# AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE

FOR PUBLIC  
INFORMATION





analyses according to Standard Methods as required by law. The division tested 37 new automatic pasteurization facilities, checked 285 installations, and answered 120 calls from dairy plant operators.

Before an applicant can become an approved milk inspector, he must work with an approved inspector actually inspecting farms to determine if he is qualified to do such work. If he appears to be qualified the next hurdle is a written examination which he must pass before he can receive an approved inspector's certificate. In the past year 43 people were certified. Renewal certificates were issued to 857 inspectors.

Requirements for cleaning and sanitizing dairy equipment have been revised and brought up to date.

Fifty-four surveys were made of milk plants shipping in inter-state commerce. Results of these surveys were certified to the U. S. Public Health Service for publication in the Interstate Milk Shippers report. Many states will not accept milk produced and processed in another state unless such survey results are published.

## *Bureau of*

# Markets

The major function of the Bureau of Markets is to assist producers of farm products to adopt efficient and economical methods of marketing. It is charged with the enforcement of the Fresh Egg Law and the Apple-Grape-Peach-Potato Marking Law, plus the administration of the provisions of two Pennsylvania agricultural cooperative laws, the dealer licensing law, and the law relating to the encouragement of agricultural exhibits. The Bureau also operates the Official Pennsylvania Egg Laying Test Program.

The Bureau assisted the Philadelphia wholesale produce and seafood trade to move from the old, inefficient Dock Street Market to the new Food Distribution Center, the most modern wholesale produce marketing facility in the United States. Studies of food distribution facilities in Pittsburgh were made at the request of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Mayor of Pittsburgh. The Bureau's part in this study was to check wholesale seafood and flower facilities to find whether present marketing facilities and handling methods are adequate for proper distribution of seafood and flowers at the lowest cost, with the least effort, while maintaining quality.

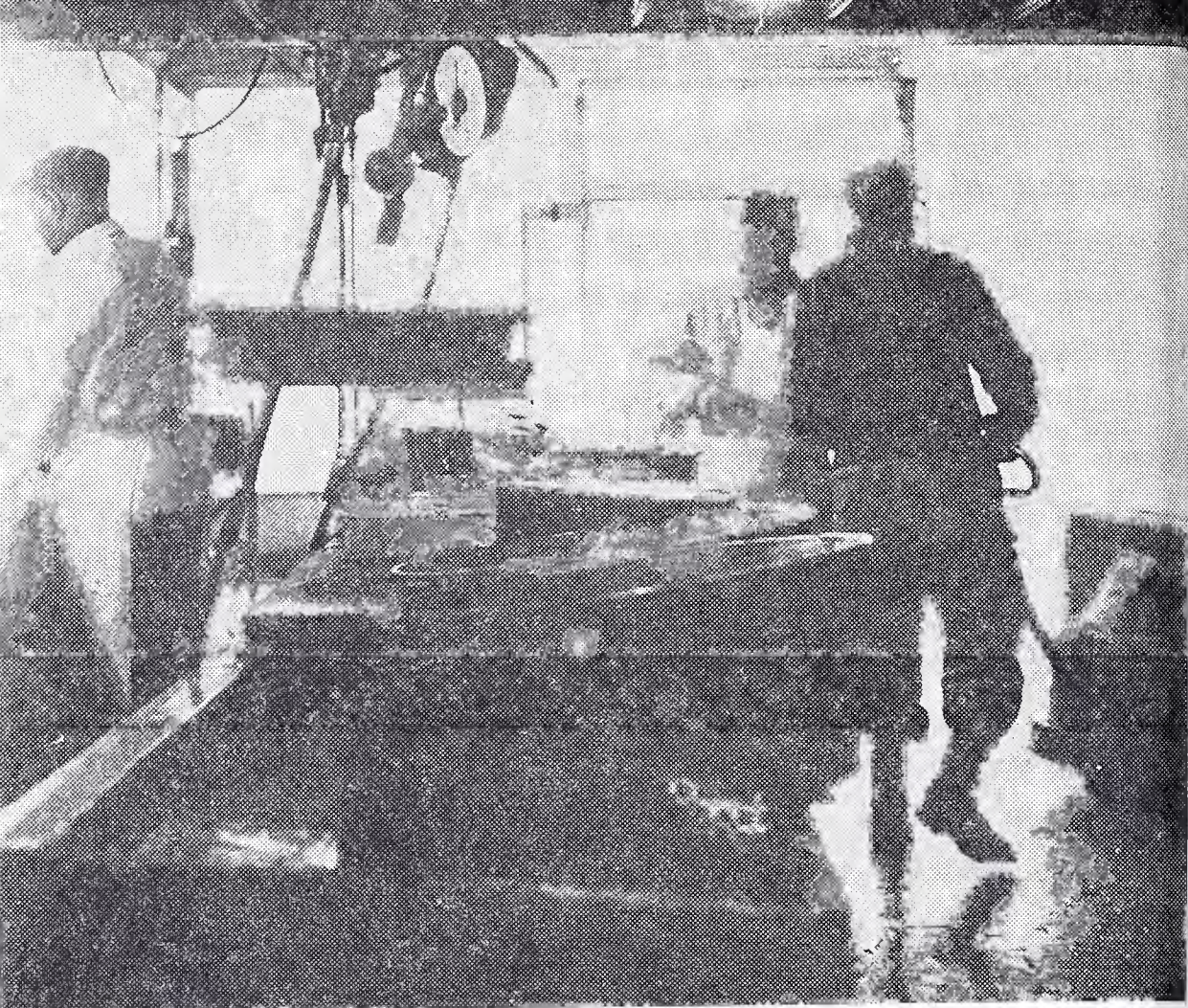
Realizing the growing importance of the livestock industry in Pennsylvania, the Bureau hired a full time livestock marketing specialist to work on livestock marketing problems. Because much of the work of the livestock marketing specialist to date has been exploratory in nature, no permanent program has been developed.

During the year the Bureau made progress toward the establishment of livestock auction market and vegetable price reporting at local levels. A livestock market news service program was established, experimentally, for the New Holland Livestock Auction and the Vintage Sales Stable in a cooperative agreement with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Under this arrangement the federal livestock market news reporter in Lancaster has added the New Holland and Vintage Sales to his schedule. Under a similar arrangement the market news agreement between the U. S. and Pennsylvania Departments of Agriculture on fruits and vegetables was amended to provide shipping point price reports in eastern Pennsylvania on cabbage, sweet corn and tomatoes during the 1960 season. The Federal-State office in Philadelphia will prepare the actual reports. A tentative program was developed during the latter part of the fiscal year for collecting, analyzing and disseminating available data on milk production, utilization, class and producer prices and marketing patterns on a periodical basis.

## **Poultry and Eggs**

While the services of this division vary considerably, they are all directed toward quality control and improvement for Pennsylvania-produced poultry and eggs. To do this the poultry and egg division administers the National





**Materials handling methods, work procedures and plant layouts were studied by the Bureau of Market while surveying the adequacy of fishery products wholesale facilities in Pittsburgh.**

Poultry Improvement Plan; licenses and supervises egg graders; and enforces the standards for grading and marketing eggs.

Much of the activity of this division is directly related to the Pennsylvania Fresh Egg Law and the Pennsylvania egg grade enforcement program. A summary of that program is presented below.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Inspectors</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>	<i>Violations of Program</i>		<i>Total</i>
			<i>Fresh Egg</i>	<i>Egg Standards</i>	
1956-57 .....	4	3,809	74	84	158
1957-58 .....	10	10,078	143	309	452
1958-59 .....	9	19,129	315	2,171	2,486
1959-60 .....	8	20,764	175	1,538	1,713

Fiscal year 1959-60 marks the second full year of operation for the Pennsylvania Certified Egg Program. This program is voluntary and applies only to those persons or organizations who wish both to classify eggs ac-



According to official Pennsylvania egg standards and identify them as having been graded under State supervision. This program is a supplement to the continuing Federal-State egg grading plan and was begun at the request of major handlers in the industry who wished to reduce costs and to identify their eggs with the Commonwealth for promotional values. At the close of the fiscal year there were 29 plants participating in the certified program. During the fiscal year a total of 800,076 thirty-dozen cases were certified.

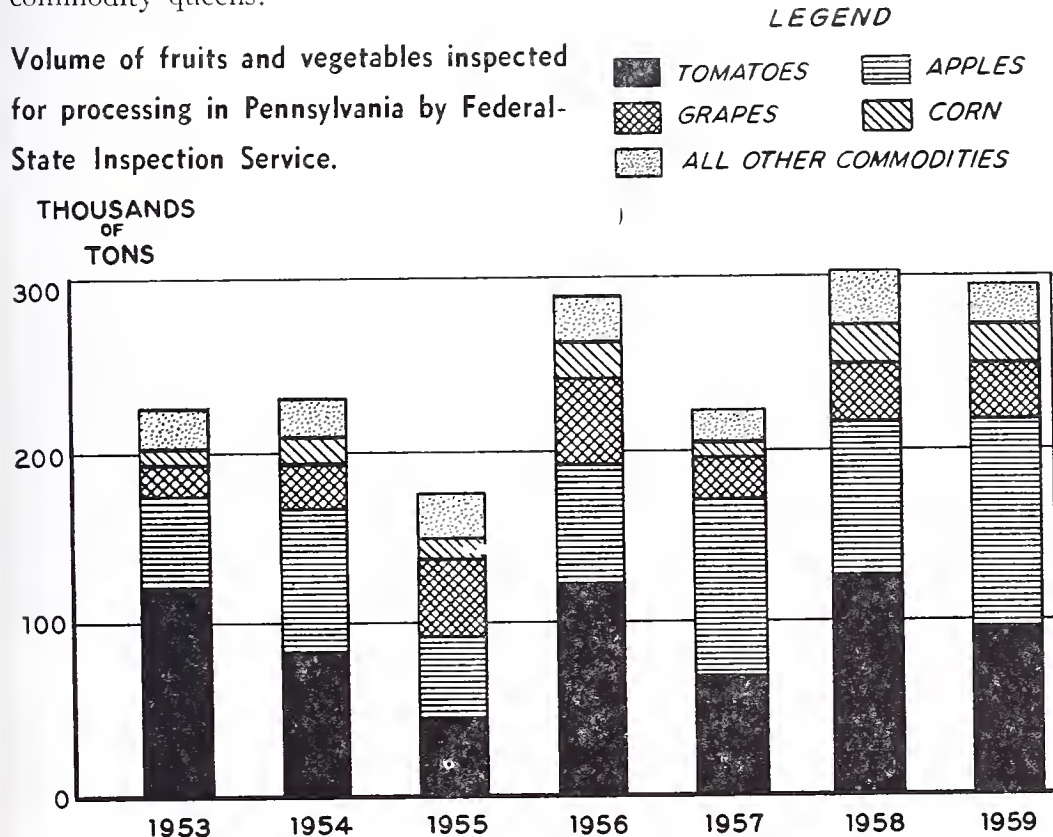
As of May 31, 1960, there were five egg grading stations (one less than at the beginning of the fiscal year) supervised by the Bureau in accordance with Federal-State standards. These stations graded 643,006 cases of eggs. In the past year there was a sharp decline in the amount of poultry graded in the four poultry processing plants which are supervised by the Bureau in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

## Fruits and Vegetables

The Bureau supervises the inspection and certification of fresh fruits and vegetables for domestic and foreign shipment and the grading of raw products for processing. All inspection and grading work is performed in accordance with practices approved by the Federal and State Departments of Agriculture and is supervised and conducted under a cooperative agreement between the two agencies.

Promotional Division work includes market development and expansion as well as consumer education. To carry out its activity, the division made use of displays, bulletins, radio and television. This division assists commodity groups in promoting their products through the use of their commodity queens.

**Volume of fruits and vegetables inspected for processing in Pennsylvania by Federal-State Inspection Service.**



## *Bureau of*

# Plant Industry

The Bureau of Plant Industry directs the control and eradication of plant diseases, insect pests and all other enemies of plant life within the Commonwealth. In addition, the Bureau is responsible for seed testing, seed certification and the inspection of plant nurseries and apiaries.

### **Apiary Inspection**

The present program calls for a biannual inspection of all bees throughout the State to aid in the control of bee diseases. Foul brood, in recent years, has been the most serious of these diseases.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Bee Colonies Inspected</i>	<i>No. of Apiaries</i>	<i>No. of American Foul Brood Cases</i>	<i>Percentage of Colonies Infected</i>
1957-58 .....	55,115	7,571	916	1.7
1958-59 .....	40,559	6,481	866	2.1
1959-60 .....	53,096	7,655	796	1.5

### **Gypsy Moth**

The gypsy moth has been a serious threat to the horticulture and forestry of the State since 1932. The Bureau works with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to control this disease. Extensive spraying with DDT has virtually destroyed this once dangerous pest. In the whole of 1959 only one moth was found within the State.

### **Oak Wilt**

Oak wilt is a fungus disease which attacks oaks. The red oak group (red, black, pin and scarlet) usually die within a single season. The white oaks are much slower in being damaged. The disease is most prevalent in the south central region of the State. The Bureau makes aerial surveys to determine the location of infected trees and then destroys those trees to prevent spread of the disease. There were 692 diseased trees destroyed in 1959. However, oak wilt continues to be a problem requiring constant attention by the Bureau.

### **Stem Rust**

Black stem rust of small grain is recognized as a pest capable of destroying a large acreage of ripening grain. The disease organism alternates its host plant from grain to European barberry. The only control is the destruction of the barberry host. Destruction of the barberry plant is under-



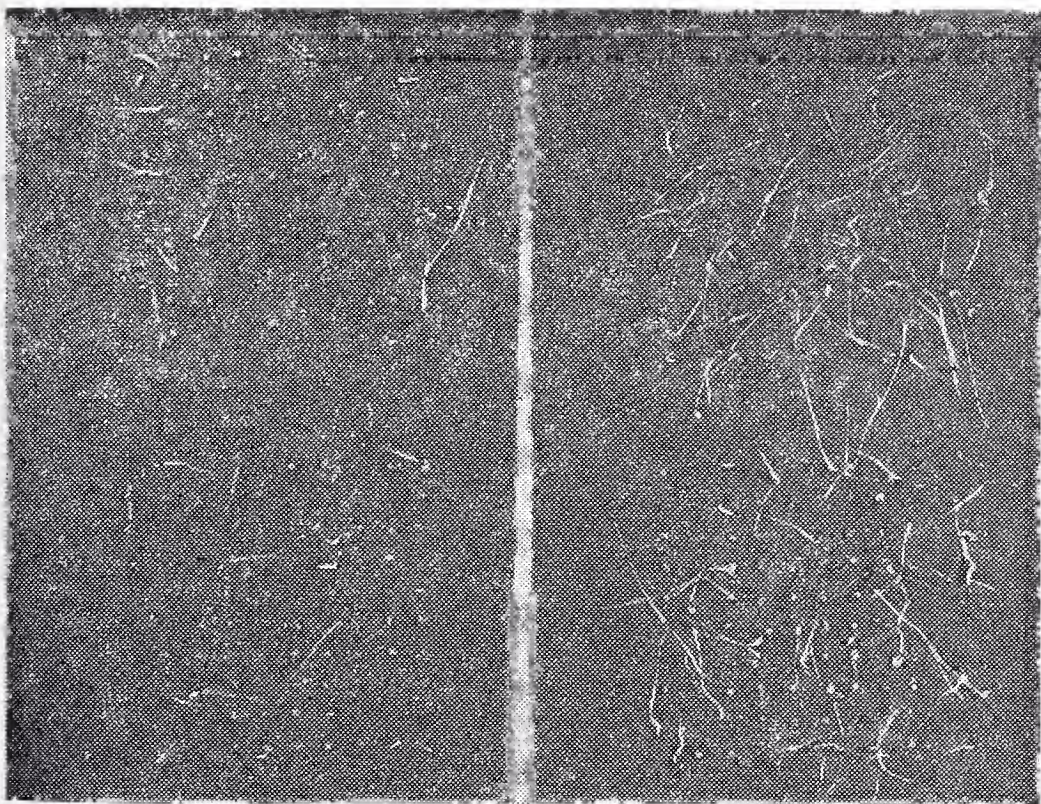
taken on a county-wide basis with expenses shared by the Federal, State and county governments. In 1960-61 about 13 counties are expected to undertake barberry plant destruction.

## **Pest Surveys**

Annual surveys are undertaken to determine the presence of potato wart. Last year only two gardens, which were treated immediately, were found to be infected. In cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, potato fields were examined for the presence of golden nematode, a destructive pest of the potato. None were found to be infected. All inspectors have been watching for the presence of a parasitic plant, witchweed, that grows on the roots of grasses, including corn; and for the presence of the spotted alfalfa aphid. Neither of these pests has been found in Pennsylvania. Intensity surveys reveal that the Japanese beetle population was less in 1959 than at any time since the beginning of the infestation, and that the corn borer has declined in numbers since 1958.

## **Nursery Inspection**

The nurseries of the State are inspected each year for the presence of plant pests and if found free from such pests, a certificate stating this fact is issued to the owners. A total of 15,794 acres were inspected in 1959.



These four lots of tomato seeds illustrate great variance in germination. Only through controlled tests of seeds can farmers and gardeners be assured that the seed they buy will germinate and be free of noxious weeds. This test was made in the Seed Laboratory in Harrisburg.



## Seed Certification

Seed certification service assures farmers of the State an adequate supply of superior seed for the production of their crops. Only varieties which have proven their worth through experimental growing are approved. The following crops are certified: oats, wheat, barley, rye, hybrid corn, soybeans, tobacco, tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, and forage crops. The seed is inspected for seed borne diseases, presence of weeds, and variety mixtures. A survey was made which showed that fields planted with Pennsylvania certified seed potatoes outproduced similar fields planted with certified seed potatoes from other states.

The Pennsylvania seed potatoes harvested in the fall of 1958 were the first crop that had to be subjected to a Florida test for virus diseases. The test is made in this manner: A sample of 310 tubers from each lot is planted in Florida about the first of December. The resulting plants are inspected in January and counts are made of diseases. Diseases checked for are leaf roll, spindle tuber and mosaic. When the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is notified that a grower's seed has passed this test, he is issued certification tags, following a grade check of seed packed for sale.

The Seed Act covers the sale of agricultural and vegetable seeds throughout the State. Samples are taken on the open market to insure that they conform to the requirements of the Act. An amendment which became effective on January 1, 1960, made the following changes in the Act:

- (1) Nursery crop seeds were added to the list of agricultural seeds.
- (2) Agricultural seeds in packages of less than ten pounds were brought under the provisions of the Act.
- (3) Changes were made in the labeling of packets containing seeds treated with a pesticide.



# Farm Show

The Pennsylvania Farm Show is the outstanding agricultural event in the year as Pennsylvania farmers and their wives display their finest quality products. It was fitting that the theme of the 1960 show *Quality in Quantity*, was selected, because farmers, suburban and city folks could observe both at the Farm Show.

There were 3,755 Pennsylvania residents representing 66 counties with their farm and home products or animals in the 27 departments. With 9,800 entries they competed for 10,570 placings for which \$62,984.50 in cash premiums were offered. Attendance during the five-day show was estimated at 635,000. Each year since the present Farm Show Buildings were established, close to a half-million people attend the five-day show.

**Governor and Mrs. Lawrence visit Snider's Gov. David L. Lawrence, first calf born at the 1960 Farm Show.**





Again entries in the Livestock and Dairy Departments had to be turned away due to lack of housing space. This is an annual occurrence. Commercial space in the main exhibition area and the Large Arena was all occupied and many exhibitors could not be accommodated.

The official opening of the 1960 Farm Show started with the Monday evening program with Governor David L. Lawrence and Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning officiating. This was followed by the annual Pennsylvania State Police demonstration. This event attracted a capacity crowd and many Farm Show visitors were unable to see the performance.

The third annual Folk Dance Festival and demonstration on Tuesday evening with 60 groups competing continued to be a favorite program. On Wednesday evening the Horse Pulling Contest with 32 teams entered, again attracted a capacity crowd interested in animal activities. The Thursday evening Livestock Parade followed by the 4-H Light Horse demonstration was another animal activity that attracted thousands interested in horses.

In addition to the annual Farm Show, the buildings were used during the year by 30 organizations for conventions, meetings and expositions. Four high school basketball games made use of the portable basketball floor in the Large Arena during the month of March. A Keystone College tournament in December permitted another use of the basketball floor. There were 13 all-agricultural shows, meetings and sales staged during the year including the Pennsylvania Livestock Exposition, Junior Dairy Show, Holstein and Ayrshire cattle show and sale, the Pennsylvania National Horse Show, the Standardbred Sale, the NEPPCO Poultry Show, and sheep and swine sales. In addition, 19 miscellaneous expositions and shows occupied the buildings.

Improving the Farm Show Buildings and grounds is a continuous program. Modern lighting of paved parking areas and several smaller projects were completed.



# State Soil Conservation Commission

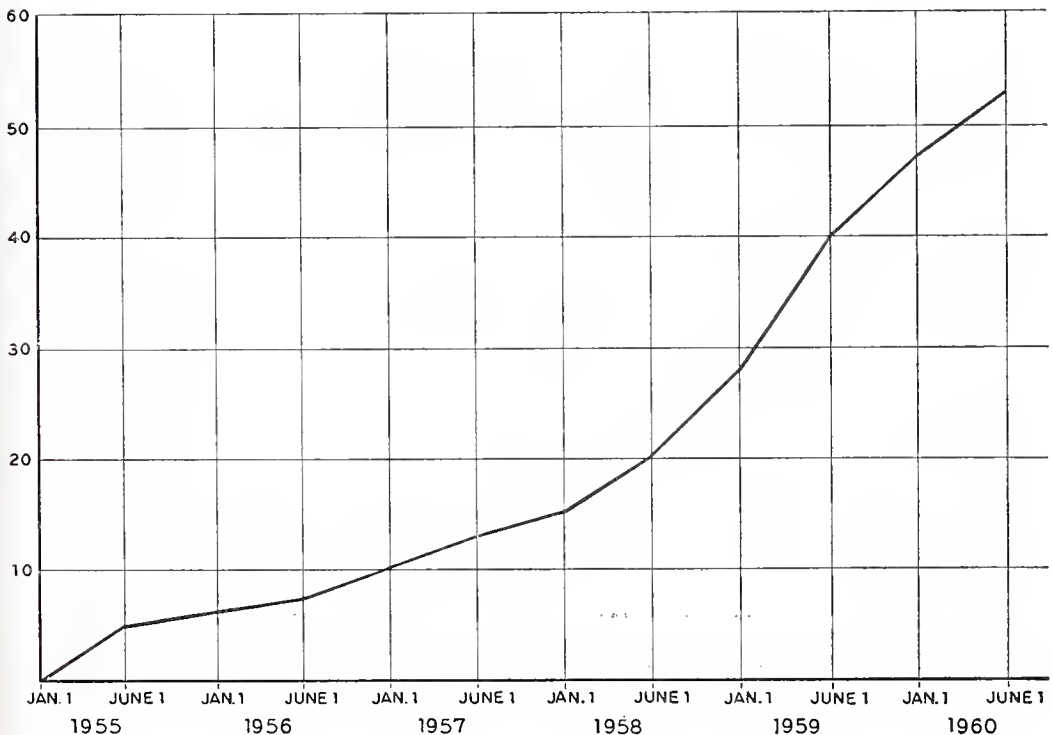
Despite great advances made in soil conservation, erosion continues to take a heavy toll of the State's fertility. A newspaper story illustrating this fact stated: "A 40-acre farm passed Harrisburg every six hours during the first nine days of April. Two million tons of sediment went down the flooding Susquehanna."

Over 85 per cent of the State's farms are in counties now organized as soil conservation districts. Districts goals are to have a complete conservation program on every farm in Pennsylvania. During the past year, the State Soil Conservation Commission met four times to set in motion new ways of helping districts meet their goal.

## Education and Training

Five copies of *The Earth is the Lord's*, a motion picture portraying the philosophy of soil stewardship, were purchased for use by soil conservation groups. The staff gave dozens of slide talks on conservation to farm and urban groups throughout the State.

NUMBER OF SMALL WATERSHED FLOOD PREVENTION PROJECT APPLICATIONS BY YEARS



New features were added to *Teamwork*, the Commission's monthly newsletter. It now reaches every agricultural and conservation leader in the State and is the most widely read publication of its kind in the Northeast.

The staff conducted training workshops for 60 new district directors appointed in 1960. Each of the 51 districts were aided in preparing programs and budgets for the year.

A successful conference for members of state soil conservation committees from eight Mid-Atlantic states was held at Hershey in April. Flood prevention, water supply and soil conservation assistance to rural non-farmers were seen as urgent needs in the state programs.

## Watershed Research and Flood Control

Use of a mechanical brain will speed up interpretations in the Commission's watershed research. Land use, conservation practices, stream flow and sediment records collected by the U. S. Geological Survey are being processed through the Commission's high speed data-processing machines. Bixler Run, Corey Creek and Elk Creek Watersheds are being studied in a ten-year program.

Thirteen new applications were received for federal aid under P.L. 566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act. Current status is shown below :

### STATUS OF SMALL WATERSHED FLOOD PREVENTION PROJECT APPLICATIONS

Project	County	Acreage
<i>Priority for planning designated during year:</i>		
Mill Run .....	Crawford .....	5,200
<i>Approved during year:</i>		
Middle Creek .....	Snyder, Mifflin, Union .....	84,200
Mauch Chunk Creek .....	Carbon, Schuylkill .....	5,760
Glade Run .....	Lycoming, Northumberland ...	5,075
Neshannock Creek .....	Mercer .....	61,760
Martin Creek .....	Susquehanna .....	32,832
Dunlap Creek .....	Fayette .....	27,000
<i>Disapproved during year:</i>		
Tobyhanna Creek .....	Monroe .....	53,000
Brooklyn Creek .....	Susquehanna .....	400
Kingsley Creek .....	Susquehanna .....	600
Buffalo Creek .....	Washington .....	125,000
<i>Cancelled during year:</i>		
Fishing Creek .....	Columbia .....	130,544
<i>Pending:</i>		
Cussewago Creek .....	Crawford, Erie .....	69,160
Satterlee Creek .....	Bradford .....	7,500
Sugar Creek Tributaries .....	Bradford .....	20,000
Oil Creek .....	Crawford, Erie, Warren, Venango	152,225
Chartiers Creek .....	Washington, Allegheny .....	172,800
Briar Creek .....	Columbia, Luzerne .....	10,760
West Creek .....	Columbia and Sullivan .....	10,250
Green Creek .....	Columbia .....	23,700
Raven Creek .....	Columbia .....	7,882
Coles Creek .....	Columbia, Luzerne, Sullivan ...	7,615
Little Fishing Creek .....	Columbia, Lycoming .....	40,394

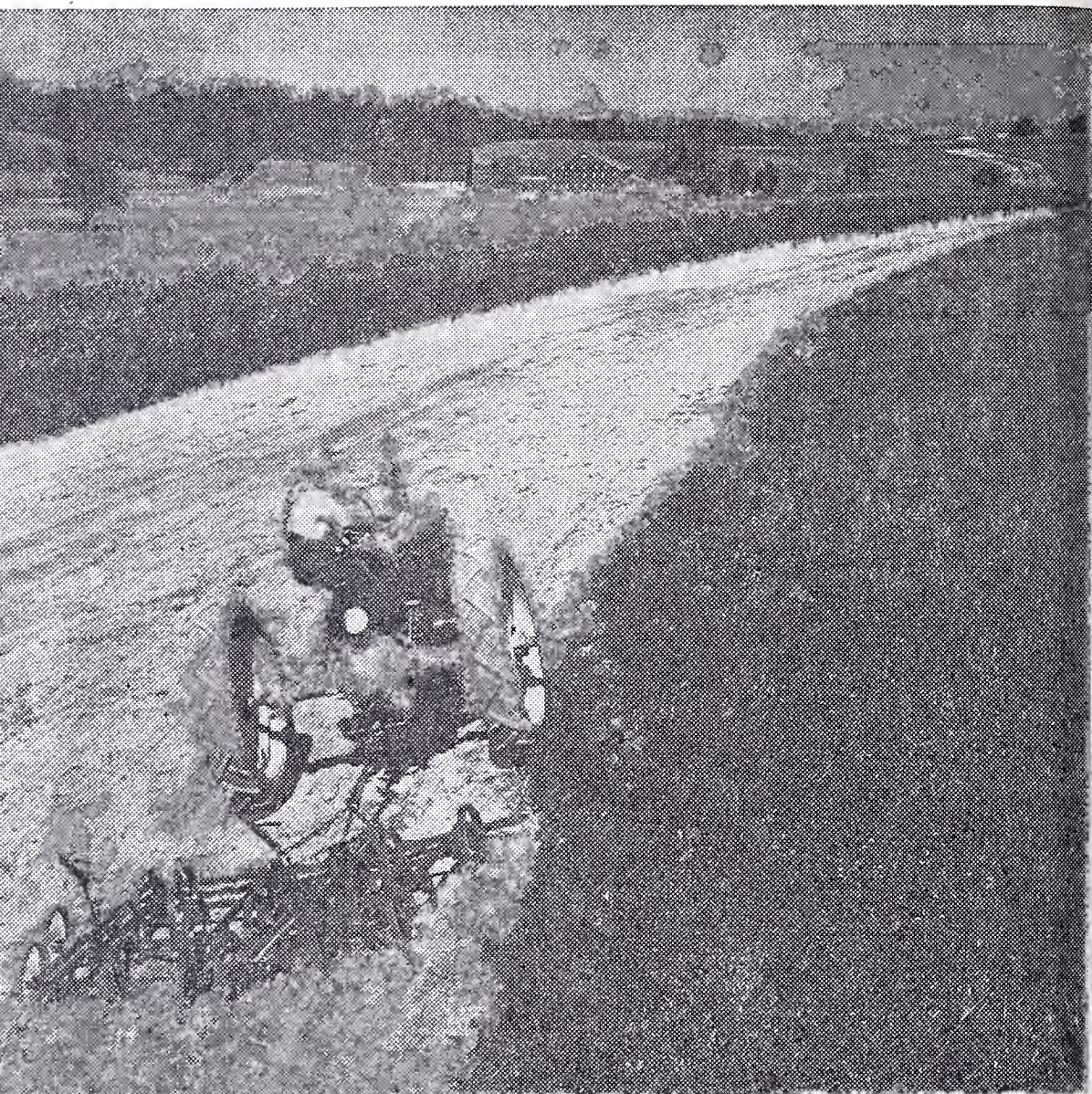
The Commission adopted a new procedure coordinating multiple-purpose use of reservoirs built under this program. The U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Fish and Game Commissions, Department of Forests and Waters, and State Planning Board are cooperating to create facilities for fishing, waterfowl development and park-type recreation in these projects.

## **The Future**

The Commission feels that its greatest contribution to aid county soil conservation districts to become strong, vigorous, self-governing units. Education and provision of "know how" through staff assistance need expansion.

Next year the Commission will hire a field representative for the northeastern districts, print a new educational brochure, produce a film explaining districts and study state action in watershed programs throughout the United States.





Strip cropping, as practiced in this York County field, stops rapid run-off of water, thus stopping both gully and sheet erosion.





